

"It clomb a little way further up the bulrush very sleepy and tired, like a child after a long day at the fair, and fell into a doze, whilst its wings began to grow."

The above quaint description of the habits of Dragon-flies is taken from "Precious Bane," by Mary Webb. Though not, strictly speaking, scientific, it is true to nature and moreover a rather fine word picture.—H.D.

## Descriptions of a new Genus and new Species of Noctuidae. Subfamily Ophiderinae.\*

By A. E. WILEMAN, F.E.S. and R. J. WEST.

[The specimens were collected by A. E. Wileman in Japan, Formosa and the Philippine Islands. All types in the Wileman Collection. Ridgway has been used as the standard for colours. Colour terms in italics are not Ridgway's. Patagium=collar-tippet, Tegula=wing-base-cover.]

### *Riaga* gen.n.

*Palpus*: obliquely upturned, second segment reaching vertex of head, third segment as long as second segment, clubbed at tip. *Antenna* of female minutely ciliated. *Proboscis*: fully developed. *Fore-wing*: termen evenly curved; veins 3 and 5 near angle of cell; 6 from near upper angle; 9 from 10 anastomosing with 8 forming a long, narrow areole; 7 from near end of areole; 11 free. *Hind-wing*: termen evenly curved; vein 3 near lower angle; 4 at angle; 5 just above angle; 6 and 7 from upper angle; 8 anastomosing with cell near base only.

Genotype.—*Riaga radiata*, Wileman et West, sp.n.

The position of this genus in the sub-family *Ophiderinae*, is, between the genera *Giria* and *Nephelomorpha*.

### *Riaga radiata* sp.n.

**FEMALE.**—*Palpus*: light-buff, obliquely upturned, third segment clubbed. *Antenna*: minutely ciliated. *Head*: frons light-buff, vertex light-buff tinged with wood-brown. *Thorax*: patagium and tegula light-buff tinged with wood-brown, a wood-brown tuft on metathorax. *Abdomen*: light-buff, above and beneath. *Pectus*, *Legs*: light-buff. *Forewing*: light-buff, a longitudinal wood-brown streak from base, through cell, then bent upward to apex; a suffusion of wood-brown irrorated with fuscous-black on inner margin near tornus, a small dash of fuscous-black at tornus. *Hindwing*: light-buff tinged with wood-brown on veins and subterminal area. *Underside*: *forewing* light-buff tinged with wood-brown on veins; *hindwing* light-buff tinged with wood-brown on veins, a wood-brown suffusion at apex.

*Expanse* 24mm. (*tip to tip* 22mm.)

**HOLOTYPE.** *Female*.—Palali, subprov. Benguet, Luzon I., Philippine Is. 2000 ft., I. 1910.

\*Formerly Sub-fam. *Noctuinae*.—A.E.W.

*Gesonia grisea* sp.n.

FEMALE.—*Palpus*: fuscous, with drab-grey near extremity of second segment. *Antenna*: minutely ciliated, with paired setae. *Head*: frons and vertex drab-grey. *Thorax*: patagium and tegula drab-grey. *Abdomen*: drab-grey above and beneath. *Pectus*: drab-grey. *Legs*: drab-grey tinged with fuscous. *Forewing*: drab-grey irrorated with drab, costa edged with fuscous on basal quarter, fuscous spots on costa antemedially and medially, three fuscous spots on costa near apex; reniform indicated by a few fuscous scales; postmedial fascia drab, faintly marked, suffused into ground-colour on proximal side, distal edge defined by drab-grey, outwardly angled to vein 5, inwardly angled, and excurved to vein 4, oblique and incurved to inner margin; subterminal area suffused with drab, terminal line drab-grey, fringe drab and drab-grey mixed. *Hindwing*: drab-grey tinged with fuscous, termen fuscous, fringe drab and drab-grey mixed. *Underside*: *forewing* drab; *hindwing* drab-grey irrorated with drab, fuscous on discocellulars and termen.

*Expanse* 22mm. (*tip to tip* 21 mm.).

HOLOTYPE. *Female*. Baguio, subprov. Benguet, Luzon I., Philippine Is., 5000 ft., 22.VI.1913.

NEAREST ALLY.—*G. fallax*, Butl. (Japan, Philippines).

*Blastichorinus luzonensis* sp.n.

FEMALE.—*Palpus*: light-buff speckled with blackish-brown. *Antenna*: minutely ciliated, with paired setae. *Head*: frons with a smooth corneous plate, light-buff above, with lateral fuscous spot, vertex light-buff. *Thorax*: patagium light-buff tinged with avellaneous, tegula light-buff. *Abdomen*: light-buff above and beneath. *Pectus* and *legs*: light-buff. *Forewing*: light-buff lightly irrorated with natal-brown basally, and blackish-brown subterminally; antemedial fascia, a fine broken line of blackish-brown dots, ill-defined; orbicular indicated by a blackish-brown speck, reniform two cartridge-buff spots, faintly outlined with fuscous and connected by a fuscous bar; postmedial fascia a band of fuscous, outwardly oblique to vein 6, outwardly angled, and inwardly oblique to inner margin; a suffusion of fuscous at apex, and a suffusion of fuscous and warm-buff in subterminal area between veins 3 and 7, fuscous spots on veins subterminally. *Hindwing*: light-buff lightly irrorated with blackish-brown, with a band of fuscous medially, fuscous spots on veins subterminally. *Underside*: *forewing* light-buff lightly irrorated with blackish-brown, postmedial fascia, a faintly marked, fuscous, crenulate line; blackish-brown spots on veins subterminally, termen fuscous; *hindwing* similar.

*Expanse* 44mm. (*tip to tip* 41mm.).

HOLOTYPE. *Female*. Palali, subprov. Benguet, Luzon I., Philippine Is., 2000ft., I.1913.

NEAREST ALLY.—*B. ussuriensis*, Brem. (Japan, Formosa, China).

*Loxiodes assimilis* sp.n.

MALE.—*Palpus*: cartridge-buff, wood-brown outwardly. *Antenna*: bifasciculate. *Head*: frons and vertex cartridge-buff. *Thorax*: patagium and tegula cartridge-buff tinged with avellaneous. *Abdomen*: (description impossible as it is missing from the type). *Pectus*:

cartridge-buff. *Legs*: cartridge-buff, wood-brown outwardly. *Forewing*: cartridge-buff, irrorated with fuscous; orbicular indicated by a fuscous-black speck; postmedial fascia, a suffused fuscous band, oblique and slightly incurved to inner margin medially; a little beyond this fascia, and parallel to it, a fine, faintly marked fuscous line; subterminal fascia fuscous-black, parallel to postmedial fascia, proximal edge sharply defined, distal edge suffused; subterminal area tinged with fuscous, termen fuscous. *Hindwing*: cartridge-buff, post-medial and subterminal fasciae fuscous and parallel with termen from vein 6 to inner margin; termen fuscous. *Underside*: *forewing* cartridge-buff suffused with wood-brown on upper half, postmedial fascia faintly showing through from upper side; *hindwing* cartridge-buff irrorated with wood-brown, postmedial fascia faintly showing through from upper side.

*Expanse* 26mm. (*tip to tip* 23mm.).

**HOLOTYPE.** *Male*. Baguio, subprov. Benguet, Luzon I., Philippine Is., 5000ft., 12.III.1912.

**NEAREST ALLY.**—*L. similis*, Moore. (Formosa, China, India).

(*To be continued.*)

## Coccinellid Hybrids. A Provoked Communication.

By T. FRED MARRINER, F.E.S.

Mr. Leman, writing upon Coccinellid variations in the *Ent. Record* of ante p. 35 refers to an article by Prof. Capra of Genoa, in which it is pointed out that the hybrid named by me *Coccinella biabilis* is really the form of *C. variabilis* named by Linnaeus as *C. 10-pustulata*, and Mr. Leman wonders what I may have to say on the matter. I can only say that I have no sufficient reference library here to verify what Prof. Capra says, but I am quite willing to accept his statement. This only goes to show that the form is a very old established one, which, of course I knew, as did others, for I should think it appears in every British Collection. But does Prof. Capra's statement do away with the fact of its hybrid origin—the 'point of my paper'? I did my best at the time to discover whether the form had been named but no one, to whom I submitted it, recognised it for the *10-pustulata* mentioned by the Professor, hence when submitting the results of my experiments (since confirmed by other workers) to the Entomological Society of London, I proposed the name *C. biabilis* as denoting the origin of the insect. I had quite a voluminous correspondence over the matter, and, until Prof. Capra noted it, no one in any way criticised the name, and certainly *biabilis* seems eminently suitable and distinctive. I have not, unfortunately, seen the article by Prof. Capra, referred to by Mr. Leman, but anyone who has experimented in the breeding of *Coccinellidae* knows that hybridisation is common, at any rate, under the artificial conditions of the laboratory, and soon comes to the conclusion that our present Classification of the group requires some revision. The experienced Coleopterist may, nay can, at a glance distinguish *C. variabilis* (*10-punctata*) from *A. bipunctata* but can anyone give me in plain language to be put before a mere beginner a worded distinction between the two—leaving out the colour of the legs which is not invariable? Further, in my experience of *C. biabilis* at least 10%,